

program, as well as strengthen their long-term commitment to Scouting and provide them with valuable leadership skills. In order to earn the Wood Badge, the Scout Leader must go through the Wood Badge course, in which the Scout Leader must complete two separate phases: the practical phase and the application phase. During the practical phase, the Scout Leader will spend two weekends at camp with a group of fellow Scout Leaders, learning how to better lead their troop with a hands-on camp experience. Also during the practical phase, the Scout Leader will develop what is called a "Ticket," which is a set of five tasks or goals developed to strengthen and improve their troop. After completing the practical phase and developing their ticket, the Scout Leader will move in to the application phase, in which the Scout Leader will complete their five tasks within eighteen months of finishing the practical phase.

Chris began his Wood Badge journey in October of 2014, and finished his requirements in June of this year. For his ticket, Chris worked with his troop to allow some of the young men to become patrol leaders, which allowed them to take up leadership positions within the troop and provide these members the opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience. In addition, Chris recruited new members to Troop 527 and created a "Scouter of the Year" award, as well as a special summer camp just for his troop. Chris has worked tirelessly to improve the scouting experience for the members of Troop 527, and his efforts have certainly made a difference.

During Chris' Wood Badge ceremony, he received the Wood Badge beads and regalia, as well as a certificate detailing his accomplishments. This is a very special ceremony that I am sure Chris will remember for the rest of his scouting days, and he should be extremely proud of the hard work it took to accomplish this feat. As a former Boy Scout, I am thankful Chris took the time to better himself so that he could better serve the members of Troop 527. I am confident they will be better off as a result of Chris' hard work.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in thanking Chris Maples for his service to the young men of Troop 527, and to congratulate him for earning the distinguished Boy Scouts of America's Wood Badge Leader recognition.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF JOHN NAVARRETTE

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. John Navarrette as he celebrates 31 years of service to the County of Fresno. Mr. Navarrette will be retiring as the Chief Administrative Officer of Fresno County, a position that he has served in for the last six and a half years of his career. John's extraordinary career and service to the County of Fresno deserves to be honored.

John was born and raised in Mendota, California. He attended Mendota Unified schools including Tranquility High School, and graduated from California State University, Fresno in his early twenties. Throughout his career, John has achieved a multitude of goals while

working in government. He started his career with the County of Fresno in 1985 as an entry level staff analyst. John subsequently went to work in Sacramento for the California State Legislature in 1997, retaining a position in the Speaker's Office. One of his early achievements was obtaining funds for City and County parks, as well as the now infamous bookmobile.

In 1999, Mr. Navarrette got a job in the Lieutenant Governor's office. During his time there, he managed special projects and economic development trade missions to Mexico and Italy. In 2003, returned to his roots in California's Central Valley and went back to work for the County of Fresno, becoming the Director of General Services in 2004.

As previously mentioned, the last six and a half years, John has served as the County Administrative Officer, and led 5,000 Fresno County employees towards solving many of the community's issues. He was able to form a senior team that showed drive and dedication, and his extensive experience in government has allowed him to implement policies in an effective manner.

John's tenacity and willingness to work hard got him where he is today. His leadership skills allowed him to lead Fresno County during one of the most difficult times his community has ever experienced. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. John Navarrette for the contributions he has made to the State of California and County of Fresno. His dedication to our community is inspiring and deserving of recognition.

#### INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REMOVE J. EDGAR HOOVER'S NAME FROM THE FBI BUILDING IN WASHINGTON, DC

#### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill I introduced today to remove J. Edgar Hoover's name from the Federal Bureau of Investigation building in Washington, DC.

J. Edgar Hoover did terrible things when he served as FBI Director.

His infamous "COINTELPRO" program harassed civil rights workers, political activists and homosexuals.

He was downright abusive.

His efforts to silence Martin Luther King, Jr. and out homosexuals working for the federal government were deplorable.

It has been reported that, at one point, he even had a letter sent to Dr. King threatening to expose information about his private life. The letter appeared to suggest that Dr. King should kill himself to save himself from the embarrassment.

The letter said, "King, there is only one thing left for you to do. You know what it is. You have just 34 days in which to do (this exact number has been selected or a specific reason, it has practical significant [sic]. You are done. There is but one way out for you. You better take it before your filthy, abnormal fraudulent self is bared to the nation."

His treatment of homosexuals was no better. He called them "sex deviates."

He ordered the FBI to undertake extraordinary efforts to identify everyone who was even suspected of being homosexual in the federal government.

There is a very good documentary about this by Michael Isikoff on Yahoo News entitled "Uniquely Nasty: J. Edgar Hoover's war on gays". I encourage my colleagues to see it.

In 1951, Hoover issued a memo to top FBI officials saying that "Each supervisor will be held personally responsible to underline in green pencil the names of individuals . . . who are alleged to be sex deviates."

The FBI eventually collected more than 360,000 files on gays and lesbians.

It has been reported that in 1952, Hoover outed a young campaign aide who was in line to be hired by President-elect Eisenhower. The young man, Arthur Vandenberg, Jr., was the son of Republican U.S. Senator Arthur Vandenberg. But that didn't matter.

The young Vandenberg was promptly rejected.

And Hoover didn't even stop there. Years later, the FBI went on to out the young man to Confidential magazine, which then outed him publicly—reporting, "Once upon a time there was a famous senator's son who had a limp wrist."

J. Edgar Hoover was a terrible man. Even the FBI's own web site declares that his infamous COINTELPRO program was, "rightly criticized by Congress and the American people for abridging first amendment rights and for other reasons."

Yet, his name continues to adorn the FBI building in Washington, DC—one of the most prominent buildings in our nation's capital.

This is just wrong.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and remove his name from the FBI building.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF PHIL RATLIFF

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Phil Ratliff who passed away unexpectedly on August 9, 2015, after suffering a cardiac event. We send our prayers and sincerest condolences to his wife, Jenni, and their two children, Haley and Dylan.

Coach Ratliff dedicated his life to inspiring young student athletes through the game of football. After an impressive collegiate career, twice being named to the nation's All-American team, Coach Ratliff passed along his understanding of the game of football and inspirational outlook on life as an assistant coach at his alma mater, Marshall University, and then at James Madison University.

Coach Ratliff later joined the new football program at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, my alma mater, as the program's Offensive Line Coach and Recruiting Coordinator. Under his leadership, the Charlotte 49ers' offense averaged more than 484 yards per game last season. A beloved father, husband, friend, and coach, he will be deeply missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.